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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,334	07/02/2002	Ilia Greenblat	56162.000372	8336

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EXAMINER	
FERRIS, DERRICK W	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2663	

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/064,334	GREENBLAT, LLIA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Derrick W. Ferris	2663	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 July 2002*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *24 September 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1-10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,392,286 A to *Tanaka et al.* ("*Tanaka*").

As to **claim 1**, see e.g., figure 1 with respect to column 8, lines 38-40 of *Tanaka* for teaching a plurality of ring members on a ring network that communicate using point-to-point connectivity. In particular, the ring members are taught as ring nodes 203-206. With respect to a message traversing the ring from member to member, the system being adapted to so that upon the message arriving at a given ring member, the message is processed by that ring member if the message is applicable to that ring member, and if the message is not applicable to that ring member, the message is passed on to the next ring member, see e.g., column 8, lines 59-63. In particular, a ring cell (i.e., message) is analyzed at each node to determine whether the ring cell is for that node based on at least the destination address thus meeting the above claimed limitation. Finally, with respect to wherein the message causes a reset of the given ring member if the message is applicable to that ring member, see e.g., Embodiment 2 starting on column 18-21 with respect to a reset bit. In particular, see e.g., column 18, lines 49-53 with respect to a reset bits in a ring cells (i.e., the message) and figure 13 with respect to the ST field.

As to **claim 2**, see e.g., column 8, lines 59-63 with respect to destination address.

As to **claim 3**, see e.g., column 18, lines 49-53 with respect to a reset bits in a ring cells (i.e., the message).

As to **claim 4**, since the reset cell transforms the state of the node, the reset cell is soft reset.

As to **claim 5**, see e.g., figure 5 where the ring interface for a given member is e.g., the cell state transforming unit 108.

As to **claims 6-8**, see e.g., column 18, lines 49-53 with respect to a reset bits in a ring cells (i.e., the message).

As to **claims 9-10**, see e.g., figure 5 where the output is a control pin coupled to the ring member is taught e.g., as the output to the cell transmitting unit 106.

3. **Claims 11-18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,982,400 A to *Ebersole*.

As to **claim 11**, see e.g., figure 1 with respect to column 10, lines 37-38 of *Ebersole* for teaching a plurality of ring members on a ring network that communicate using point-to-point connectivity. In particular, the ring members are taught as either the ring controller or ring monitor. With respect to a message traversing the ring from member to member, the system being adapted to so that upon the message arriving at a given ring member, the message is processed by that ring member if the message is applicable to that ring member, and if the message is not applicable to that ring member, the message is passed on to the next ring member, see e.g., column 5, lines 15-45. In particular, message are passed around the ring using e.g., destination address as taught

e.g., in figure 4. With respect to further comprising a reset control signal that causes multiple members of the ring network to be reset, see e.g., reset pin 39 which is asserted to all nodes, see e.g., column 9, lines 25-67.

As to **claim 12**, see e.g., figure 2 which shows that the reset pin 39 is a hardware signal which is independent of the message sent on the ring bus.

As to **claim 13**, the reset pin is independent of the data bus.

As to **claim 14**, see e.g., figure 2 where the ring monitor 12 (figure 1) is selected based on the monitor pin 38 being asserted such that the ring monitor 12 resets the other ring controllers on the ring, see e.g., figures 10a-10c, see also column 9, lines 37-45 with respect to monitor mode and column 9, lines 60-64.

As to **claim 15**, the reset pin 39 is hardwired and thus a hard reset.

As to **claim 16**, see e.g., the init cmd in figures 10a and 10b with respect to the reset of the bits. Also see e.g., the ring monitor control logic 36 in figure 2 which resets bits based on the reset pin 39.

As to **claims 17-18,** see e.g., the gates 45 and 47 in figure 2 with respect to output ports.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 19-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,392,286 A to *Tanaka et al.* ("*Tanaka*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,982,400 A to *Ebersole.*

As such to **claim 19**, *Tanaka* discloses a message that causes a reset, see e.g., similar rejection for claim 1.

Tanaka may be silent or deficient to the further limitation a reset control signal.

Ebersole teaches the further recited limitation above, see e.g., similar rejection to claim 10.

The proposed modification of the above-applied reference(s) necessary to arrive at the claimed subject matter would be to modify *Tanaka* by including the further teachings of *Ebersole.*

As such, examiner notes that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art prior to applicant's invention to include the above limitation. In particular, the motivation for modifying the reference or to combine the reference teachings would be to perform a hard reset for e.g., a printed circuit board or IC. In particular, *Ebersole* cures the above-cited deficiency by providing a motivation found at e.g., column 4, lines 1-4. Second, there would be a reasonable expectation of success since both references teach a ring bus.

As to **claim 20**, see similar rejection to claim 4 and claim 15 respectively.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Derrick W. Ferris whose telephone number is (571) 272-3123. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. E.S.T.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo can be reached on (571)272-3139. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Derrick W. Ferris
Examiner
Art Unit 2663

DWF

DERRICK FERRIS
PATENT EXAMINER
1/3/06